

## SOCIETY CHRONICLES

JULIA MURDOCK'S  
THEATER GOSSIP

## SANDMAN STORIES

Mrs. Taft Will Attend  
Concert This AfternoonMISS FLORENCE SCHNEIDER,  
Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Franklin  
Schneider.

Miss Florence Schneider, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Franklin Schneider, will be presented to Washington society at a large reception this afternoon at the Cairo, from 1 to 5 o'clock.

Palms, ferns, and Southern shrubs have been used to adorn the parlors, and in the ballroom the chief decorations will be huge clusters of pink roses and carnations and the many floral tributes to the debutante.

Mrs. Schneider will receive her guests in a gown of gray chamoisee made with an over drapery of embroidered tulle and trimmed with touches of duchesse lace and ermine. The debutante will wear a pink chamoisee frock made with an overdrapery of crystal embroidered net. She will carry an armful of pink roses and lilies of the valley.

Assisting in receiving the guests will be Miss Genevieve Clark, Miss Helen McElmer, Miss Sally Williams, Miss Florence Orme, Miss Marie Adams, and Miss Dorothy Shuey.

Mrs. William Ambrose, Mrs. Clark Jones, Mrs. Marchand, and Mrs. Kline will preside at the punch bowl during the afternoon, and Mrs. Dan Thew Wright, Mrs. Rudolph, Mrs. Hickling, and Mrs. Lister will preside at the tea table.

Twenty young girls, all debutantes of last season, will assist in the dining room. Among them will be Miss Lucie Hoke Smith, Miss Ampara Rivero, Miss Crechano, Miss Hazel Cox, Miss Gracelin, Miss Virginia Millan, Miss Cooper, and Miss Katherine Blirney.

Mrs. James Marion Johnston will entertain a card party this afternoon.

Dr. and Mrs. Duncan McKim will be hosts for a dinner party tomorrow night.

The Second German Secretary and Madame Kienlin will entertain a small company at dinner tonight and will follow it with dancing.

The French ambassador returned to Washington yesterday from New York, and tonight he and Madame Jusserand will entertain at dinner in compliment to the ambassador to France and Mrs. Myron T. Herrick.

Miss Louise Robertson has issued invitations for a card party at the Cairo on December 29.

Leonard Wood, Jr., a freshman at Harvard, will join his parents, the Chief of Staff, U. S. A., and Mrs. Leonard Wood, at their home in Fort Meyer, for the Christmas holidays. He is one of the most popular of the young Harvard students who will be in town for the numerous dinners and dances given for the younger set.

Miss Hanna W. Taylor will entertain a number of the younger people of society at a card party tonight.

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor and Mrs. Nagel returned to Washington today from St. Louis, where they went last week to attend the wedding of Mrs. Nagel's niece.

Mr. Rivero, wife of the Minister of Cuba, will not be able to take an active part in the social affairs of the season, owing to illness.

An exhibition under the auspices of the Board of Trustees of the Social Settlement, the Neighborhood House, and Mrs. Christian Hemmick, chairman of the industrial committee, is being held today at Rauscher's in the small ballroom.

Congressman Albert L. Burton of Texas, and Mrs. Burton, have arrived in Washington for the season, and are established at the Hotel Powhatan.

The first dance of the season of the Georgetown Assembly will be held this evening at Lathrop Hall.

Dr. and Mrs. Edwin B. Behrend, formerly of K Street, are now located in their new home, 1854 Baltimore street.

Mrs. Harry Hellbrun and daughters, Miss Helen and Miss Alice, who have been the guests of Mrs. T. Reichenstein, of Fifth street, have returned to their home in Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

Mr. and Mrs. Alf Ash, of 1533 Newton street, are spending the month at the Hotel Wolcott, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Luch, formerly of Washington, are now residing in New York.

Mrs. Taft will occupy the Presidential box at the New National Theater this afternoon for the concert of Mme. Alma Gluck. With her will be Mrs. Westcott, Mrs. Slater, Miss Gwynn, and Miss Boardman.

Miss Helen Taft will be among the dinner guests of Miss Marjory Colton this evening, preceding the large dance which Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Jeffrey Parsons are giving in honor of Miss Rebekah Wilmer.

Col. Robert M. Thompson will entertain in his box at the concert at the New National Theater this evening Mr. Justice and Mrs. Lurion and Horace H. Lurion, Jr.

Tickets for the entertainment which Mrs. Edson Bradley is giving Saturday afternoon for the benefit of the Home for Incubators as the opening of her new music room can be purchased from Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, at 1242, or from Mrs. Bradley, at 1223 Connecticut avenue. An orchestra from the Cavalry Band will play throughout the afternoon for the dancing.

Mrs. E. H. Brooke will leave Washington Saturday for New York where she will remain until just before Christmas. Miss Marguerite Brooke, who is visiting in Louisville, Ky., will not return to Washington until she comes to join her mother upon her return from New York.

Mrs. Albert L. Mills will be at home this afternoon at her residence in K Street.

Mrs. Adams, wife of the First Assistant Secretary of the Interior Department, will receive Mondays during the season.

Mrs. McCoy, wife of Congressman McCoy, of New Jersey, will receive Tuesdays during February.

Mrs. Borland, wife of Congressman Borland, of Missouri, will be at home the last Tuesday of each month at her residence, 1113 Sixteenth street.

Mrs. McGowan, wife of Rear Admiral McGowan, U. S. N., will entertain at luncheon on Thursday.

Mrs. Gillespie, wife of Brig. Gen. George L. Gillespie, U. S. A., retired, will be hostess at luncheon Saturday.

Brig. Gen. William L. Marshall, U. S. A., retired, and Mrs. Marshall will be dinner hosts at the Chevy Chase Club Saturday evening.

The Commandant of the Marine Corps and Mrs. William P. Biddle will entertain at dinner on Friday, December 13 and December 20. During the latter part of January they will be hosts at a dance.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Spencer will entertain at a large dinner and dance on Wednesday evening.

Miss Ruth Parker, who spent the week-end in Baltimore, will return to Washington this afternoon.

Senator James A. O'orman and Mrs. O'orman, of New York, have arrived in Washington for the season, and have taken an apartment at the Hotel Powhatan.

Mrs. Reynolds Pitt has returned to Washington after spending several days in New York.

Miss Cecelia May is at Dougherty Manor, the Maryland country place of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Carroll Lee, with whom she will attend the first German in Baltimore tonight. Miss Foote has gone to Baltimore, and will also attend the German.

Senor Don Alvaro de Terreros, of the Mexican embassy, is in Philadelphia to attend the dance which Mrs. James P. Sullivan will give tonight for her daughter.

## Personal Mention

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney I. Benselovre have sent out cards announcing the marriage of their daughter, Miss Nellie Ecker Benselovre, to William E. Lamb. The wedding took place at noon on Friday, December 6, at the home of the bride's parents at 315 E street north-east, the Rev. J. MacBride Sterrett, rector of All Souls' Mission, officiating in the presence of the members of the families and a few friends.

The bride wore a tailored suit of white serge, with a white hat, and carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley.

After a wedding breakfast Mr. and Mrs. Lamb left Washington for New York and Bermuda. Upon their return they will be at home after January 1 at the Newton, 1440 B street.

Miss Rosalie Waters, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Somerset R. Waters, of Massachusetts avenue, will leave Washington today for New York to spend several weeks with Miss Katherine Hamerley.

Miss Frances Benjamin Johnston is spending a week with her aunt, Mrs. Saunders Johnston, of 1842 Fifteenth street, prior to dismantling her house and studio in this city. Miss Johnston is now established in New York, where her mother and Mrs. C. J. Hagan will make their home with her.

Alpha Eta Chapter of Kappa Sigma gave a tea in their home on Vermont avenue yesterday afternoon. Arrangements for the affair were made by Tyler Henry and D. Galloway. Among those present were:

Miss Henry, Miss Hill, Miss Smoot, Miss Crossley, Miss Gordon, Miss Miller, Miss Helen and Maudie Harvey, Miss Connelly, Miss Morse, Miss B. Pigeon, Miss Ferris, Miss Dorsey, Miss Hartung, Miss Smith, Miss Grace Mackintosh, and Messrs. Hunt, Lynn, Henry, Smith, Clayton, Hahn, White, Fogle, Hamilton, Nash, Van Wagener, Walters, Flatow, Laylin McCray, Isom, Woods, Galloway, Williams, Morse, and Elliott.

The chaperons were Mr. and Mrs. Laylin and Mr. and Mrs. Henry.

Julia Murdock Tells of Present "Old Homestead"  
Players Who Were Members of Original Company

Left to Right—MESSRS. CLARE, KAMMERLEE, SNADER, CLARK, PATCH, MISS BOUSTEAD, MISS THOMPSON, MRS. BREYER.

Nowadays, when the theatrical morgue is filled with plays that have lived a week or two, or at most a month, after having been taken to Broadway, it is interesting to note the continued success of a play that has almost come to be an institution of the country. That play is, of course, "The Old Homestead," which opens this evening in the Columbia Theater, a play which cannot be measured by present-day standards, yet a play so young that it delights and entertains as much as ever.

It has been more than a quarter of a century since this charming play of New England country life first entertained theatergoers. Those who saw it twenty-five years ago delight in seeing it again, and those of the younger generation who see it for the first time, enjoy it just as much as any of the plays of the present day. A quarter of a century is a long time for anything to endure. A quarter of a century is a continuous run for a play is something so remarkable that it causes one to pause in wonder what this grand old story has that gives it such life. For twenty-seven years, to be exact, this show has been on the road, and here is one of the reasons: It has a human life story, truthfully told, that is just as enjoyable today as it was when Denham Thompson wrote and produced it. With the company coming to the Columbia there are actors and actresses

who have been playing their roles for more than twenty-two years—not playing them, but living them. One of Denham Thompson's peculiarities, it is said, was that he would not allow any of his company to "act." He made them appear natural; live their parts; and in this, many see another reason for the play's remarkable success.

Thus Kammerlee started in the first production of "The Old Homestead" that Denham Thompson put out, and for twenty-seven years has had the same part.

He is one of the basses in the double quartet, and also has a leading position in the cast. Fred Clare has been the tramp for twenty-five years. Margaret Houghton has been the same Anna Maria Murdock for the same length of time.

George L. Patch has seen twenty-three years of service as Len Holbrook, and Annie Thompson, daughter of the author, is now playing Mrs. Hopkins, though twenty-seven years ago Miss Thompson was the original "Ricketty Ann" in the play, the part written for her by her father.

E. L. Snader, as Joshua Whitcomb, has seven years to his credit. There are nine of the juvenile members who have been associated with the old play for from five to ten years.

Time or space will hardly permit, though an interesting story it would be to tell more at length of these "old school" folk. For truly they are of the "old school" of dramatic art. The good old school.

Passing mention should be made, however, of Mrs. Margaret Breyer, who fifty years ago appeared as the "Chimney Fairy" with C. W. Doudlock in "The Cricket on the Hearth," and later with Keene, Barrett, Forrest, and others. Also Charles W. Clark, whose first appearance was with C. J. Bonifacio and Joseph Proctor at the old National Theater in Boston, in 1885. This young-old actor and actress have no intention of retiring from the stage. They both say, "We've lost track of our birthdays, but we have many years of youth and untidiness yet before us, though, of course, the youth is in the heart." One has but to meet them to be convinced of the truth of their assertion.

It is a wonderful old play, with a wonderful old history. The history of Denham Thompson's life is none the less absorbing than the history of the play. He started in life in the small town of Girard, Pa., and was lured from the narrow confines of village life by a small crossroads circus that wintered there. After many and varied fortunes he finally found an abiding place in Toronto, Canada, where he played many parts, ranging from "Uncle Tom" to "Julius Caesar." He finally made his home in "The Old Homestead," though he had

reached his forty-fifth year before the turn in his favor. Such was his volume, however, that it was difficult to appreciate, and the money flowed into his coffers in a steady stream for twenty-five years thereafter, until he was called by death, and it still continues to benefit his family.

Denham Thompson endeavored himself to all who came in contact with him. He was the friend of Presidents and paupers alike, and when his death came a year ago last April, he left a lasting memorial of himself to the American people in the delightful old play that will serve to keep his memory green for scores of years to come.

## JULIA MURDOCK.

Engagement Query Leads  
Sir Thomas to "Cuss"

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 9.—Sir Thomas Lipton used a "cuss" word—just a little one—while being interviewed by reporters here. He was making a rapid-fire statement saying he would build a Shamrock V for a race on the Pacific coast when some one asked him about his reported engagement to a young woman of Denver.

"These rumors are coming up all the time," said Lipton. "There have been hundreds of them. So far as I am concerned, I don't care, but it is damned embarrassing for the young woman."

"I merely met her and her family in England, and told them good-by. Why, the girl is nothing but a young thing."

For The Times' Children  
Just Before It's Bedtime

## BILLY GOAT HELPS BILLY PIG.

BILLY PIG was sent to market one morning, his mother was too busy preserving to go, so she told Billy Pig to take his basket and go to town.

"I want you to bring home a nice fat duck," she said, "and don't you stop to sleep or talk to Billy Goat on the way. Go straight to the market and right straight back."

"How can I," said Billy Pig, "the road turns and I cannot go over the trees."

"You silly Billy," said his mother, "I mean don't you stop, go straight along."

So Billy Pig started off, he minded this time, for he had seen the folly of disobedience, and he soon reached the market and filled the basket.

He looked around and coming down another path was Mr. Fox. "Good morning, Billy Pig," he said. "You look very fit in your white suit and your red cap."

"I don't have fits," replied Billy Pig, wishing Mr. Fox would not stop him. "Oh, I know that," said Mr. Fox, laughing. "I mean that you look very nice—you should always wear white."

Billy Pig did not reply for he intended to mind his mother this time, and go right straight home, so he walked past Mr. Fox. Mr. Fox, however, had no intention of being left in this manner, so he said: "Wait a minute, Billy Pig. I want to see your red cap; I am thinking of getting one. Why, what in the world are you doing with that spotted duck? he said, as though he had just noticed it."

"That is a good duck," replied Billy Pig. "I just got it from the market."

"Well, well, you certainly are an easy one to let that market man sell you a duck that is bad," said Mr. Fox. "Why, Billy Pig, I could not think of letting you take that bad duck home to your good mother. I am too good a friend of yours to do that."

"What is the matter with it?" asked Billy Pig, taking the duck from the basket and looking at it. "I do not see anything the matter with it."

"That is because you are not a good judge of ducks," replied Mr. Fox. "Now, I can tell a good duck from a bad duck just as soon as I see it, no matter how far off I am. That duck from right should never be eaten. Throw it away, Billy Pig, and it is not right that you should carry it all the way home either. You have too heavy a load now for a little fellow."

"Billy Pig hesitated. 'I guess I better take it home,' he said, and he carried it. He did not think the duck was bad, and yet Mr. Fox ought to know, and he seemed to think he should carry it any farther, so Billy Pig threw the duck in the bushes and started to go along."

"Do you?" said Mr. Fox. "Well, I feel it my duty to lighten this one by one. Poor Billy Pig, he said, know what to do. He did not think the duck was bad, and yet Mr. Fox ought to know, and he seemed to think he should carry it any farther, so Billy Pig threw the duck in the bushes and started to go along."

Mr. Fox stood smiling to himself to think he had got his supper so easily when he heard some one say: "Pick up your duck, Billy Pig. Mr. Fox made a mistake; it is not spoiled."



Billy Pig and Mr. Fox turned around and there was Billy Goat with his head lowered and pointed in the direction of Mr. Fox.

"You made a mistake, Mr. Fox. I am sure," said Billy Goat, his head and horns shaking as he spoke.

"Well, perhaps I did," said Mr. Fox, moving away. "I seldom make a mistake, but I guess I did this time." And off he ran.

"Pick up your duck," said Billy Goat, "you are the one that is frightened to death, not the duck; it is all right. That silly Mr. Fox was trying to make you think it was bad, and when you were out of sight he would have carried it off to his cave and eaten it for his supper."

Billy Pig picked up the duck and put it in his basket. He was thinking of all the tricks he had played on Billy Goat, and wondered what he should say to him for helping him.

Billy Goat spoke first. "I guess we are about even on playing tricks," he said. "I will help you carry your basket; it looks heavy."

"Thank you," replied Billy Pig. "The basket isn't heavy, but I should be glad of your company, and I thank you also for saving my duck."

"Oh! that is all right!" replied Billy Goat. "I am always glad to help a friend, and that Mr. Fox needs a good lesson, and I should have only been too glad to have helped him."

"Billy Pig told his mother when he reached home. 'He helped me carry my basket through the woods,' he did not tell her about Mr. Fox, and how near he came to losing the duck."

Tomorrow's Story: "Draught's Vanity."

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Norway Mackerel, 8-lb. kit. . . . . 99c  
Pink Alaska Salmon, can. . . . . 10c  
Double-tip Matches, 7 boxes . . . . . 25c  
Pacific Toilet Paper, 7 rolls . . . . . 25c  
Laundry Starch, 2 lbs. . . . . 7c  
Marshall's Kipperd Herring, 2 cans. . . . . 25c  
Prunes, 45 to a lb., lb. . . . . 10c  
Iona Succotash, 3 cans. . . . . 25c  
Golden Wax Beans, 3 cans. . . . . 25c  
Iona Spinach, can. . . . . 10c  
Pretzels, lb. . . . . 7c  
Flaked Fish, pkg. . . . . 3c  
A & P Cocoa, 1/2-lb. can. . . . . 17c

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A & P Seedless Raisins, lb. . . . . 12c  
A & P Cleaned Currants, lb. . . . . 12c  
Sult'na Seedless Raisins, lb. . . . . 15c  
Imported Citron, lb. . . . . 20c  
Orange or Lemon, lb. . . . . 18c  
Imported Malaga Raisins, lb. . . . . 25c

London Layer Raisins, lb. . . . . 10c  
Arabian Dates, lb. . . . . 10c  
Florida Oranges, doz. 18c & 24c  
California Navel Oranges, doz. . . . . 35c  
Turkey Figs, lb. . . . . 15c  
Table Apples, doz. . . . . 25c  
Cranberries, quart . . . . . 10c  
Malaga Grapes, lb. . . . . 12c  
Finest Mixed Nuts, lb. . . . . 20c  
Good Mixed Nuts, 6 lbs. . . . . \$1.00  
Soft Shell Almonds, lb. . . . . 25c  
Paper Shell Almonds, lb. . . . . 25c  
Brazil Nuts, lb. . . . . 15c  
Sicily Filberts, lb. . . . . 18c  
Drake Almonds, lb. . . . . 20c  
Large Pecans, lb. . . . . 20c

Best Elgin Butter, lb. . . . . 40c  
Pure Lard, lb. . . . . 15c  
New York State Cheese, lb. . . . . 22c  
Brookfield Eggs, doz. . . . . 30c  
Selected Eggs, doz. . . . . 27c

Richardson & Roberts Plum Pudding, can, 10c, 23c & 43c  
Pure Mince Meat, lb. 12c & 20c  
Borden's Malted Milk, bot. . . . . 50c  
A & P California Lemon Cling Peaches, can. . . . . 20c  
Sultana Lemon Cling Peaches, can. . . . . 17c  
Iona Peaches, can. . . . . 14c  
Fancy Rice, 4 lbs. . . . . 25c  
Navy Beans, . . . . . 6c  
Marrow Beans, lb. . . . . 8c  
Red Kidney Beans, lb. . . . . 7c  
Black Eye Peas, lb. . . . . 7c  
Lentils, lb. . . . . 7c  
Yellow Eye Beans, lb. . . . . 7c

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